

REMARKS

The Office examined claims 1-44 and issued a restriction requirement requiring election of one of the following species:

- Species I, directed to Figure 1
- Species II, directed to Figures 2-4
- Species III, directed to Figure 6
- Species IV, directed to Figures 7-8
- Species V, directed to Figure 10
- Species VI, directed to Figure 11
- Species VII, directed to Figure 12
- Species VIII, directed to Figure 13
- Species IX, directed to Figure 14.

Election

Applicant hereby elects Species I (claims 1, 3-4, 8-13, 17-23, 25-26 and 31-37) for examination without traverse, with the understanding that upon allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to the non-elected species, which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

Applicant observes that the Office has not associated Figures 15 and 16 with any of the above species. Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiments shown in Figures 15 and 16 are directly related to the embodiment of Figure 1, thus applicant submits that any claims directed to Figures 15 and 16 may also be incorporated into the species election directed to Figure 1, as elected above.

Amendment to the Claims

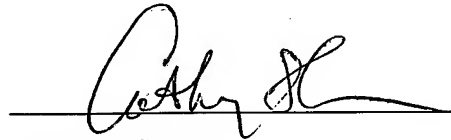
Applicant has amended claims 4, 8-10, 17, 25 and 26 for proper antecedent basis. Applicant has also amended claim 3 to remove the phrase “and optionally third and fourth.” No new matter has been introduced by way of amendment.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the application is now in condition for examination, and early passage to allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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